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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

| Examiner: | Chaudry, M. K. |
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| Art Unit: | 2133 |
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| | MAY 2 7 2004 |
| T | echnology Center 2100 |
| | Art Unit: |

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION

Hon. Commissioner for Patents Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed January 28, 2004, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the above referenced patent application. Please consider the following remarks and amendments for allowance of the above identified patent application.

05/26/2004 DEMMANUI 00000030 09679042

02 FC:1251

110.00 OP

NPT-65.0337

Examiner: Chaudry, M. K.

Serial No.: 09/679,042

Group Art Unit: 2133